

R 9L

ALK -
Clearance/Comments
For Secy's possible
use tomorrow.SecretU.S. INTELLIGENCE FOR IRAQ

Peter

Q. Can you confirm the December 15 Washington Post story that the U.S. has been supplying military intelligence to Iraq for the past eighteen months? If so, why have we been doing so? If so, how can we claim to be neutral in the war?

--You have been briefed by the Agency on the substance of the intelligence exchange with Iraq.

A. --The provision of limited, but useful, amounts of intelligence to Iraq is something which I approved--and continue to approve.

--Our policy of neutrality on the war remains. We favor an end to the war with neither a victor nor a vanquished and with the independence and territorial integrity of both Iraq and Iran intact.

--Our policy on the war is clear--we want it ended at the earliest possible time. Iraq has been willing to negotiate an end to the war for the past several years. Iran has been the recalcitrant party--and continues to be. We look for ways to pressure Iran to reconsider its stubborn commitment to the war -- through Operation Staunch and through diplomatic pressures. Iraq is the only country which can exert direct military pressure on Iran. We decided that the stakes involved in the outcome of the Iran-Iraq war were great enough to justify supplying some intelligence to Iraq.

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NEA/NGA:APBurleigh 12/15/86

Wang 15172

Clearances:

NEA:ALRaphel; MVCacknise

GB -
FBI. This
is what was
prepared - Q & A -
for Secy last
night. gbs.